Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SY-05 SP-02 L-03

NSC-05 DODE-00 PM-03 FBIE-00 /036 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 984

S E C R E T SEOUL 4682

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, KS, US

SUBJECT: ASSIGNMENT OF KNP SUPERINTENDENT TO LOS ANGELES

- 1. ASST MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS KIM CHONG-TAE WILL SHORTLY SEND INSTRUCTIONS TO AMBASSADOR HAM TO AGAIN APPROACH THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT STATIONING A KOREAN NATIONAL POLICE (KNP) OFFICIAL IN LOS ANGELES. THIS ASSIGNMENT HAS BEEN HANGING FIRE FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR AND BOTH THE HOME MINISTRY AND MOFA ARE INTERESTED IN PLACING AN OFFICER IN THE LOS ANGELES CONSULATE.
- 2. THE OFFICER DESIGNATED IS SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT AN KYU-HA, AGE 46, CURRENTLY STATIONED IN SHIMONOSEKI. AN SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH AND FOR SEVERAL YEARS WORKED AS KNP LIAISON WITH U.S. FORCES.
- 3. THE KNP HAS ASSURED THE EMBASSY THAT IF AN'S ASSIGNMENT TO LOS ANGELES IS APPROVED HIS WORK WILL BE PURELY POLICE ORIENTED WITH NO POLITICAL OVERTONES.
- 4. FROM EMBASSY POINT OF VIEW WE SEE NO OBJECTIONS, PER SE, TO STATIONING SUPERINTENDENT AN IN LOS ANGELES. CONTACTS WITH THE FBI INDICATE THAT THEY HAVE NO OBJECTIONS, AND BELIEVE THAT WITH SOME 60,000 KOREANS IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA THERE IS LEGITIMATE POLICE FUNCTION TO BE PERFORMED. HOWEVER, ASSUMING CONTINUING PROBLEMS WITH KCIA ACTIVITIES IN U.S., WE WOULD SUGGEST SECRET

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FAVORABLE REACTION TO NEXT APPROACH

CONDITIONED ON

DECREASE OF KCIA ACTIVITIES AND OUR INSISTENCE THAT SUPERINTENDENT AN LIMIT HIMSELF TO LEGITIMATE POLICE WORK, AND THAT HE ESCHEW THE PLACING OF ANY POLITICAL PRESSURES UPON LOCAL KOREAN RESIDENTS.

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